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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Applicati n Num b r	10/647,811
	Filing Date	08/25/2003
	First Named Inv ntor	Rainer GADOW et al.
	Group Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number		4965-000160

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): English translation of International Preliminary Examination Report; and postcard.
Remarks		The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name Christopher M. Brock	Reg. No. 27313
Signature			
Date	October 27, 2003		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below.

Typed or printed name	Christopher M. Brock	Date	October 27, 2003
Signature			

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT
NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 72.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

GAHLERT, Stefan WITTE, WELER & PARTNER
 Witte, Weller & Partner Patentanwälte
 Postfach 105462
 70047 Stuttgart
 Germany

30. Sep. 2003

Frist:

notiert:

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 17 September 2003 (17.09.03)	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
Applicant's or agent's file reference 4823P102WO - SG/sc	
International application No. PCT/EP02/01743	International filing date (day/month/year) 19 February 2002 (19.02.02)
Applicant SCHOTT GLAS et al	

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation made by the International Bureau of the international preliminary examination report established by the International Preliminary Examining Authority.

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following elected Offices requiring such translation:

CA,CN,JP,KP,KR,US

The following elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AP,EA,EP,AE,AG,AL,AM,AT,AU,AZ,BA,BB,BG,BR,BY,BZ,CH,CO,CR,CU,CZ,DE,DK,DM,DZ,EC,EE,ES,FI,GB,GD,GE,GH,GM,HR,HU,ID,IL,IN,IS,KE,KG,KZ,LC,LK,LR,LS,LT,LU,LV,MA,MD,MG,MK,MN,MW,MX,MZ,NO,NZ,OM,PH,PL,PT,RO,RU,SD,SE,SG,SI,SK,SL,TJ,TM,TN,TR,TT,TZ,UA,UG,UZ,VN,YU,ZA,ZM,ZW,OA

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report.

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. (41-22) 338.89.70	Authorized officer Leslie BARRIOS (Fax 338 8970) Telephone No. (41-22) 338 9715
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Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 4823P102WO - SG/sc	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP02/01743	International filing date (day/month/year) 19 February 2002 (19.02.02)	Priority date (day/month/year) 06 March 2001 (06.03.01)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H05B 3/74.		
Applicant SCHOTT GLAS		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet. <input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 10 September 2002 (10.09.02)	Date of completion of this report 06 February 2003 (06.02.2003)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP02/01743

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.)*:

☐ the international application as originally filed.

☒ the description, pages 1-13, as originally filed,
pages _____, filed with the demand,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☒ the claims, Nos. 1-10, as originally filed,
Nos. _____, as amended under Article 19,
Nos. _____, filed with the demand,
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____,
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☒ the drawings, sheets/fig 1/1, as originally filed,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the demand,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP02/01743

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

See supplemental sheet

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP 02/01743

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1 - 10	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1 - 10	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1 - 10	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

1. This report makes reference to the following documents:

D1: DE-A-31 05 065 (LICENTIA GMBH) 19 August 1982

D2: US-A-6 037 572 (COATES DONALD A ET AL)
14 March 2000.

2. Both **D1** and **D2** could be regarded as the *closest prior art*. Both documents disclose (see **D1**, page 3, line 16, to page 4, line 20, together with Figure 1, or **D2**, column 5, line 1, to column 8, line 68, together with Figures 2 and 2A) a ceramic hob which comprises a glass or glass-ceramic hotplate provided with an electrical heating element layer and an insulating layer between the hotplate and the electrical heating element layer.

3. The subject matter of Claim 1 differs therefore from the above-mentioned disclosures in that the insulating layer consists of a plurality of layers which have a porosity that decreases towards the heating element layer.

This feature is not described in any available document. Claim 1 is therefore novel within the meaning of PCT Article 33(2).

4. The problem to be solved by the present invention is therefore understood to be that of increasing the long-term stability of the laminar structure and of ensuring the dielectric strength of the insulating layer.

This is achieved by means of the above-mentioned distinguishing features. The special use of such graded layers allows progressive matching of the coefficients of thermal expansion between the glass-ceramic and the heating layer.

The characterizing features are neither disclosed nor suggested in the international search report documents. In view of the teaching of the available documents, the most that could be argued is that the replacement of the known insulating layer by a plurality of (e.g., two) layers which are porous would be obvious to a person skilled in the art. However, it is not indicated that these layers have *"a porosity which decreases towards the heating element layer"*, nor are there any hints that it would be obvious to a person skilled in the art to apply this feature.

Consequently, the subject matter of Claim 1 involves an inventive step within the meaning of PCT Article 33(3).

5. Independent Claims 2 to 10 define advantageous embodiments of the hob according to Claim 1. Consequently, they also comply with the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) and (3).